LA FEMME POLONAISE

X)

86





THE GREAT NATIONAL CAMP AT SPAŁA

During a whole fortnight in July 1935 — from the 11th till the 25th the quiet residence of the President of the Republic of Poland will change its usual appearance and become a lively city with 20 000 inhabitants.

The great National Camp of the Polish Guides and Boy Scouts, planned to celebrate the twenty-fifth birthday of the great Scout Movement in Poland, is meant to fulfil several purposes. Not only the present achievements of the Guides' and Scouts' Associations are to be demonstrated, but the work of these twenty-five years is also to be shown.

The preparation of the camping grounds has already begun. In the great park and forest which the President of the Republic has put at the disposal of the Guides and Scouts Associations for this purpose new roads, baths, sport grounds are being built. Hotels and restaurants will be prepared for visitors soon after the New Year, but the principal inhabitants of this extraordinary city will just come on the appointed day to plant their light roots of canvas, needing only a few hours to build their homes.

Such a big camp is in Polish called „Zlot", meaning a gathering as of birds flying all to one place. It is used in Polish as „Jamboree" is used among the Scouts other countries.

A special Committee of the Spała „Zlot" was formed under the chairmanship of Mme Helena Śliwowska, Vice-president of the Polish Girl Guides and Boy Scouts' Association.

Already 7.000 Polish Guides have declared their intention of attending the „Zlot" and Headquarters are organizing the work so that every banner will have to do something for the benefit of the whole camp. Thus the results obtained will be the work of all the Guides of Poland.

The most responsible and perhaps the most difficult task has been undertaken by the Warsaw City Banner which will be host at the „Zlot". 500 girls were trained by special courses in the organizing of work in a great camp, in calculating costs and in accountantship, in the knowledge of merchandise, hygiene, dietary, cookery, etc. The training was conducted by specialists and in contact with the Polish Housekeeping Institute. The duties of the camp hostesses will be most important—the receipt of all merchandise, the running of 10 provisioning centres at the „Zlot", the supervising of all restaurants and kiosks, and the extending of all necessary help and advice.

We hope that all guests coming to the camp from abroad will take this opportunity of visiting our country and the Warsaw County Banner is organizing all excursions. There will be a Travel and Information Bureau which will help the visitors of the camp and excursions in the surroundings will be facilitated by maps made by the Guides of this Banner.

The Cracow Banner is very busy preparing to arrange and run the laundry, hairdressing establishment, sempstress' room shoe, repair-shop, etc.

One banner is taking over the whole sanitary and hygiene work, another the postal, telephone, and wireless service. This banner is also providing a bicycle-mounted company of Guides who will convey all orders and news over the great expanse of the camp.

The Silesian Banner is organizing the great Exhibition of the Polish Movement which is to show the work and development of Guiding in the twenty-five years of its existence in Poland. Its social work before, during, and after the War, the Guides' books, their camping and technical achievements — all these will be shown.

In the department which falls to it each banner will organize the whole life of the „Zlot". Thus the banner entrusted with Nature-protection is to organize the great games in connection with natural history, the Warsaw Banner will give all Guides the opportunity of winning the housekeeping badge, camp fires, theatres, sporting events, will be arranged for all. People visiting the camp with small children will be able to leave them for the day in a special playground where Guides will organize games for the bigger ones and take care of the babies. There will be a special colony in the camp for Guide children, so that the many Guides who are already mothers can take a more active part in the camp's work and life.

Everyone will find his share of affection and his place at the Polish National Camp. Guide visitors from abroad will camp with those banners with which they were already in touch personally or by correspondence. The Polish Headquarters wish that each of our Girl Guides should be able to enter into a friendship with some foreign fellow-Guide living a camp life with her.

Marie Skłodowska-Curie et sa fille Irène Curie-Joliot — voir couverture

JANVIER — FEVRIER 1935

LA FEMME POLONAISE

REVUE PARAISSANT
TOUS LES DEUX MOIS

Nr. 1. Varsovie Prix 2 zł.



Académie solennelle à l'aula de l'Université de Varsovie

MARIE SKŁODOWSKA-CURIE — AD MEMORIAM

Le 4 février 1935 a eu lieu, à l'aula de l'Université de Varssovie, une académie solennelle consacrée au souvenir de Marie Skłodowska-Curie. Cette manifestation a été organisée par les soins de dix-huit sociétés féminines. La séance a été ouverte par la présidente de la Société des Femmes Diplômées des Universités Mme Teodora Męczkowska. Après celle-ci, Mme la doctoresse Helena Więckowska a entretenu l'auditoire de l'importance de Marie Skłodowska - Curie pour la question féminine. Enfin, Mlle Alicja Dorabialska, doctoresse ès-sciences professeur à la Polytechnique de Lwów et élève de Marie Skłodowska-Curie, a prononcé un discours sur la vie et l'oeuvre de la grande savante.

Nos lectrices trouveront ci-dessous, le discours de Mme la doctoresse H. Więckowska et l'abrégé du discours de Mme le professeur A. Dorabialska.

2387

MARIE SKŁODOWSKA-CURIE

ET LA CAUSE FÉMININE

Marie Skłodowska-Curie a conquis le rang le plus honorable dans la communauté des savants grâce à ses mérites insignes et durables. Tous les peuples civilisés s'inclinent devant son génie et lui vouent leur gratitude sincère pour son oeuvre. Cependant ce sont surtout les femmes qui se sentent les plus profondément pénétrées d'une reconnaissance spontanée envers la grande savante. C'est que, en dehors des raisons scientifiques et humanitaires, elles en ont d'autres, plus particulières.

Marie Skłodowska-Curie est pour elles non seulement une intelligence géniale, mais encore la plus grande des femmes de notre siècle.

Ce fait prend une importance singulière lorsqu'on le considère sur le fond de l'époque révolue, celle de la jeunesse de Marie Skłodowska-Curie et des débuts de ses recherches scientifiques.

C'est une chose notoire, (et il y a parmi nous des femmes qui en gardent encore un vif souvenir), qu'à cette époque, qui remonte aux années quatre-vingt dix du siècle passé, les portes de nos universités et de la plupart des universités étrangères étaient fermées aux femmes. De sorte que même les femmes les mieux douées étaient obligées de renoncer aux études supérieures. La société d'alors regardait la tendance des femmes à conquérir l'instruction supérieure comme une extravagance morbide d'une personnalité exagérée. Le droit à l'instruction professionnelle, au choix d'un métier conforme aux goûts et aux aptitudes de l'individu n'existait pas alors pour les femmes.

Quant à la carrière scientifique, elle était réservée exclusivement aux hommes. Les femmes qui voulaient remonter le courant devaient avoir une grande fermeté du caractère, une énergie inépuisable et une volonté de fer. Or Marie Skłodowska possédait toutes ces vertus.

Elle réussit à surmonter toutes les difficultés d'ordre moral et matériel, pour aller à Paris en 1891.

Là elle se met à ses études bienaimées et travaille avec une telle ardeur qu'au bout de trois ans à peine elle conquiert deux diplômes: le baccalauréat de physique et de chimie et celui de methématiques. En 1894 elle retourne en Pologne, mais elle n'y trouve pas d'emploi. Le professeur Auguste Witkowski, qui ne lui ménage pas sa sympathie, n'arrive cependant pas à lui assurer la modeste place d'assistante à sa chaire de physique à l'université de Cracovie.

Marie Skłodowska se rend compte que si elle veut rester dans son pays elle ne pourra ni tirer aucun parti de son savoir ni poursuivre ses travaux ni satisfaire ses justes ambitions. Elle décide donc à regret de quitter le pays et de retourner à Paris. Elle y recommence une vie consacrée à la science et à un dur labeur. Elle travaille d'abord seule, puis avec l'illustre compagnon de sa vie et de ses recherches, le célèbre savant Pierre Curie. Cette collaboration des deux époux, sans précédent dans l'histoire de la science, cet effort surhumain de deux esprits éminents aboutissent bientôt à un résultat d'une portée incalculable, à la découverte de deux nouveaux éléments chimiques: le polonium et le radium. Cette découverte ouvre de nouvelles voies à la science, marquant en même temps le début de la progression triomphale de Marie Skłodowska-Curie dans le domaine de la science.

Déjà en 1900 Marie Skłodowska-Curie est appelée à professer la physique à l'Ecole Normale Supérieure pour les jeunes filles à Sèvres. En 1904 on lui confie la direction du laboratoire attaché à la chaire de physique à la Sorbonne. En 1906, après la mort tragique de Pierre Curie, elle obtient la chaire de radiologie à la Sorbonne. En 1903, le prix Nobel lui est attribué, conjointement avec P. Curie et Becquerel: en 1911 elle en est lauréate elle seule.

Elle est la première et, jusqu'à présent, la seule femme à qui ce prix ait été décerné pour les recherches scientifiques. La première, aussi, appelée à siéger parmi les membres de l'Académie de Médecine à Paris. (On sait bien que le radium est appliqué au traitement des tissus attaqués par le cancer).

La Pologne ne reste pas en arrière là où il s'agit de rendre hommage à notre grande compatriote. Un décret de la municipalité de Varsovie en date de 4 février 1919 proclame Marie Skłodowska-Curie citoyenne honoraire de la ville de Varsovie. L'Académie des Sciences de Cracovie, les Universités, la Société des Savants sollicitent son adhésion à leurs corps. En mai 1932 l'Institut Radiologique est inauguré à Varsovie. C'est le monument vivant érigé par la société polonaise en l'honneur de notre grande compatriote. L'Institut est placé sous les auspices de Marie Skłodowska-Curie dont il porte le nom.

Si maintenant nous considérons parallèment, d'une part, le cours extraordinaire de cette vie, et de l'autre, le souvenir encore vivant du fait que cette même personne, aujourd'hui si célèbre, s'était vu refuser l'accès de l'Université et la possibilité de faire ses études supérieures, uniquement à cause de son sexe et des préjugés de la société, nous comprendrons facilement quel grand tort on fait à l'humanité en écartant des sources de la science tels ou autres membres de la communau-

té; en leur refusant le droit de se développer librement. L'exemple de Marie Skłodowska-Curie prouve avec éclat que la fermeté contribue à la réalisation des choses magnifiques; il montre aussi l'importance, pour la science, de l'intuition qui est le propre de la pensée féminine; enfin il fait apprécier la valeur que peut représenter pour l'humanité le travail de la femme. Marie Skłodowska-Curie fournit un exemple suggestif du fait que toutes les forces d'une nation doivent être exploitées d'une façon intelligente et convenable Que toute sorte d'obstacles visant à interdire les accès de la science, finissent par réduire, sur l'horizon de la vie et de la science, le nombre des astres dont le rayonnement pourrait être aussi puissant que celui de Marie Skłodowska-Curie.

Elle se tenait à l'écart du mouvement féministe; et quoiqu'elle ne refusât pas son patronnage aux associations féminines, quoique, pendant plusieurs années, elle fût présidente honoraire de l'Association des Femmes Diplômées des Universités en France, elle ne se préoccupait pas des problèmes féministes et ne travaillait pas en qualité de membre actif des sociétés féminines. Cependant elle fit pour la cause féminine plus que toutes les féministes réunies parce que sa vie entière fut un argument éloquent en faveur des droits des femmes. De plus, son oeuvre fut classée à un niveau si élevé qu'elle lui valut malgré, sa qualité de femme, le rang le plus honorable parmi les savants du monde ses contemporains.

Pour les femmes elles-mêmes, sa vie de travail créateur, dur mais joyeux, devint un argument puissant en faveur de la lutte pour leur droit à ce genre de travail. Et, à ses contemporaines, elle était un encouragement et un modèle qu'elles se proposaient dans leur effort vers la conquête de la science malgré les difficultés que comportait cette enterprise. Aux jours de doute ou d'incertitude, sa vie les encourageait à ne pas abandonner leurs recherches difficiles, à doubler leurs efforts, car elles y trouvaient une preuve que, malgré l'opinion universellement reçue, la femme est capable de s'élever, jusqu'au sommet de la création scientifique. Pour les générations de ses cadettes, Marie Skłodowska - Curie n'a pas cessé d'être le modèle encourageant du perfectionnement de l'esprit et de la probité dans la recherche visant à dévoiler les grands secrets de l'existence.

Les autres aspects de la vie de Marie Skłodowska-Curie ont eu pour le problème féministe une importance égale. Nous savons à quel niveau elle a réussi à organiser sa vie de famille dans laquelle un travail sérieux et probe occupait tant de place. Comme cette vie était bien remplie et profonde! que de contentement elle donnait à Marie Skłodowka-Curie — elle-même et à tous ceux qui l'entouraient. Son attitude si intelligente en face de son travail lui permettait de concilier sa vie de savante avec sa vie privée, en montrant au monde que même un exténuant labeur intellectuel n'est point un obstacle à la vie de famille,



Institut Radiologique portant le nom de Marie Skłodowska-Curie à Varsovie

lorsque la personne qui y préside est consciente de ses devoirs.

Marie Skłodowska-Curie apportait au sein de sa propre famille la profondeur du sentiment et le sérieux de la pensée. En même temps elle s'acquittait envers la grande famille qu'est l'humanité en offrant à celle-ci les fruits de son activité créatrice dans le domaine de la science.

Ses découvertes sont devenues le bien non pas de tel peuple ou de tel autre, mais celui du monde entier. Elles ont bouleversé non pas la science polonaise ou française, mais la science universelle, et les plus grands créateurs de la physique et de la chimie modernes sont obligés de se référer aux conceptions nouvelles de la matière et de l'énergie qu'on doit à Marie Skłodowska-Curie.

C'est une vérité évidente que le propre des valeurs créées par l'oeuvre des personnalités de génie est de devenir un bien commun et de jouer, par cela même, un rôle important qui consiste à unir, à relier, à rapprocher les uns des autres les peuples, même les plus hostiles. C'est donc ainsi que les nobles intelligences des génies travaillent le plus fructueusement en faveur de la paix et pour un avenir meilleur.

Marie Skłodowska-Curie a été de ceux qui travaillent à l'amélioration de l'avenir de l'humanité. *dr. Helena Więckowska*

MARJA SKŁODOWSKA-CURIE (1867 — 1934)

A SHORT OUTLINE OF HER LIFE AND WORK

In tracing the history of development of natural science we come from time to time upon great names so bound up with new departures in research work that they have become symbols of a whole branch of science. In the history of chemistry and physics there are few names equalling in brilliance that of Marja Skłodowska-Curie which is indissolubly joined with the birth of the science of radioactivity. This branch of physics has been of special importance, for not only has it influenced the development of science within its strict limits, but it has also exercised decisive influence on the philosophy of natural history in the XX-th century. The discovery of radioactivity forms a turning-point in the study of elements which is the theoretical basis of contemporary chemistry, and sets a boundary between classical and modern chemistry.

Marja Skłodowska was born in Warsaw. on Nov. 7-th 1867, being the fifth child of Władysław Skłodowski and his wife Bronisława, *née* Boguska. Her parents were teachers, M. Skłodowski taught mathematics and physics at secondary schools („gymnasia"), Mme Skłodowska was Head of a then well-known Warsaw girls' school. Marja Skłodowska grew up in circumstances exceptionally favourable to the development of a child's mind, in a household steeped in culture, among persons taking an active part in the intellectual and social work of the day. She first frequented the private school of Mme J. Sikorska, passing after a year to the III-rd State School which she left in 1882 with a gold medal. Since childhood it had been her decided wish to devote herself to scientific work and on leaving school she determined to become inscribed at the University. In that time however, the eighties of the last century, the young girl met with so many obstacles in this that several years of persevering efforts were necessary to overcome these difficulties. Marja Skłodowska spent the years 1882 to 1891 partly as teacher in a private house in the country, partly in Warsaw where she frequented the Science Courses („Kursa Naukowe") and particularly devoted herself to the study of mathematics. In this time also she first began research work in the physics laboratory attached to the Museum of Industry and Commerce. The director of the laboratory was M. J. J. Boguski. This period of her life was also filled by educative social work, for she took an active part in organizing secret educational courses for the Polish working-classes.

In 1891 Marja Skłodowska became a student at the *Faculté des Sciences Exactes* of the University of Paris. In spite of difficult circumstances she took a Master's degree *(licence)* in phisics already in 1893, in mathematics in 1894. She also began researches on the magnetic properties of steel, working in the physics laboratory of Professor Lippman.

Her studies ended she returned to Poland in the summer od 1894, intending to remain there if any possibility of scientific work were opened to her. Many years later, speaking of this period of her life the scientist writes: „Having grown up in an atmosphere of patriotism fed by the oppression dominant in Poland I wished, as did many other young people of my country, to contribute by my efforts to the preservation of our national culture".

A direct realization of this wish proved impossible and after some months spent in Poland Mlle Skłodowska returned to Paris, there indirectly serving her country by affixing her name to discoveries which brought about a revolution in the history of science. In 1895 she married Pierre Curie who at that time was given the Chair of Physics at the School of Physics and Industrial Chemistry in Paris.

M. Schutzenberger, then Director of the School, gave permission for Mme Skłodowska - Curie to work in her husband's laboratory, so that the scientific life of both was centred for many years at this school. At first their researches were entirely independent of each other. Mme Curie finished, and in 1897 published, the work she had begun in Professor Lippmann's laboratory; her husband worked on the problem of the growth of crystals.

In the autumn of 1897 Mme Skłodowska - Curie began an extensive piece of research work on which she intended to take her doctor's degree. Its subject were the as yet little known invisible rays emitted by the salt of uranium, the heaviest chemical element. These rays had been discovered in 1896 by the French scientist Henri Becquerel.

His discovery formed the starting-point for Mme Curie-Skłodowska's work. She decided to examine the properties of uranium rays and to undertake systematic researches for the purpose of determining whether the ability to emit rays were an exclusive property of uranium, or whether it were to be found in other chemical elements. Becquerel's photographic method did not appear exact enough, so she proceeded to measure the ionising properties of uranium rays by the help of piezoelectric quartz. This method had already been evolved for other purposes by Jacques and Pierre Curie, about the year 1880.

Mme Skłodowska-Curie first examined uranium and the uranates and then found that one more of all the then known chemical elements — the metal known as thorium — emits rays similar to those emitted by uranium and of about the same intensity. She suggested that the phenomenom of emission of invisible rays, such as are observed in uranium and thorium, should be called radioactivity and the elements possessing this property radioactive elements. This appellation was soon generally accepted and is now universally used.

Her further researches showed that radioactivity is a property of uranium and thorium atoms; that it is numerically dependent on the percentage of these metals contained in chemical compounds; that it is entirely independent of the nature of the compound containing uranium or thorium. This was a fact of the greatest importance, as being immediate proof that radioactivity is connected with the atom, not with the particle of matter and that, since it is thus not the result of any chemical forces, its causes must be sought in some unknown changes taking place inside the atom itself.

Besides these extremely important results Mme Skłodowska-Curie's first printed work on the matter (April 1898) mentions the probable existence of a still unknown chemical element with radioactive properties far stronger than those of thorium and uranium. This hypothesis was based on the fact that in examining a number of radioactive minerals the scientist had observed two of them — uranium pitch ore and chalcolite — to have radioactive properties several times stronger than even pure uranium. This led to the supposition that the unusual radioactivity of these ores is due to an admixture of some strongly radiating body, and since contemporary chemistry knew no radioactive elements outside uranium and thorium, it was necessary to suppose the existence of a new chemical element.

Further research seemed so extraordinarily promising that Pierre Curie now gave up his study of crystals and joined his wife in an enthusiastic search for the new element.

The substance they chose was uranium pitch-ore whose chemical composition was fairly well known and in which they supposed about 1 per cent of the unknown substance. This they decided to extract by the usual chemical methods, but examining every successive product obtained for radioactive properties and rejecting in the course of work all non-radioactive bodies. The method then evolved shortly became classical for the science of radioactivity.

By following this method Pierre and Marja Curie obtained, after several months of work, a substance some 400 times stronger than uranium oxide and in July 1898 they published the discovery of a new chemical element. This element, contained in extremely small quantities (less than a millionth part) by uranium pitch ore, had been extracted together with bismuth and resembled it in chemical properties. In honour of Marja Skłodowska's country the new element was christened polonium.

The discoveries were by no means at an end. At Christmas 1898 (Dec. 26th) Pierre and Marja Curie made known to the *Académie des Sciences* of Paris that they had discovered a second unknown chemical element and had named it radium. This element is like polonium very strongly radioactive, but entirely different in its chemical properties, resembling barium and quite unlike bismuth.

The discovery of radium marks an epoch in the history of chemistry and physics. It was followed by a long series of researches conducted by the most famous scientists of all countries for the purpose of gaining knowledge on the properties of the newly discovered substances. Thus the year 1898 is the date of birth of a new branch of physico-chemical science, that concerned with radioactive elements.

The *Académie des Sciences* in Paris plainly expressed its appreciation of Mme Curie's part in these discoveries by granting her already at the end of the year 1898 the Gegner Prize for that year in the section of the Academy's general prizes.

The same prize was granted her again in 1900 and in 1902 together with the Berthelot medal. Pierre Curie received the Academy's La Caze Prize for 1901. It was granted for the entirety of his scientific work, but the opening sentence of the motion is: „The discovery of radium has made famous in the whole world the name of Pierre Cu-

rie coupled with the name of his excellent collaborator — Mme Curie".

The discovery of polonium and radium opened up before these two scientists of genius a far-stretching vista of further work leading into the still unknown work of atoms. They could not consider their work as finished, it was still necessary to obtain the new elements in a chemically pure state, the substances which led to the first publication having been mixtures of polonium and radium salts with bismuth and barium. Researches on the nature and properties of the emitted rays and into the essence of their origin had still to be carried out.

Without a moment's hesitation M. and Mme Curie undertook further work and immediately met with considerable difficulties. In order to obtain polonium and radium in a state of chemical purity it was necessary to treat many tons of ore as raw material since the first experiments had shown that the amount of these elements contained in the ore is far smaller than had been originally surmised. To-day we know that a ton of uranium pitch-ore contains scarely one-fifth of a gramme of radium and four hundredth parts of a gramme of polonium. To extract such small quantities of the substances from whole waggon-loads of ore was in truth an enormous undertaking, for which it was necessary in the first place to have these quantities of ore at one's disposal and next to have a laboratory where the process of extraction could be carried on. After much unsparing work and effort, at last, thanks to the help of the Academy of Sciences in Vienna, M. and Mme Curie received several tons of ore. It was not pure uranium mineral, but offal from the manufacture of uranium out of the ore found at Joachimstal. In accordance with their suppositions this material should contain all the radium and part of the polonium to be found in uranium ore.

The problem of housing the experiment was worse still. The laboratory of the School of Physics and Chemistry was so poor that its director had really no place to work in. When Mme Curie began her first researches in her husband's laboratory, M. Schutzenberger, the Director of the School, allowed her to put her instruments in a room where the machines and stores were kept. It was of course impossible to carry on any chemical experiments there, apart from the fact that for the treatment of great masses of ore a spacious accommodation was needed. But enthusiasm and an iron will overcame this difficulty also.

In the courtyard of the School stood an old derelict shed, not used by anyone and serving only as a lumber-room. Here for two years Mme Curie and her husband carried on researches of historic importance. In the biography of Pierre Curie Mme Skłodowska-Curie describes this laboratory in the following words: „It was a wooden shack with a stone flooring and a glass roof which did not by any means keep out the rain. It had no appliances at all. Its only furniture were a few old pine tables, an iron stove which gave very insufficient warmth, and the blackboard which Pierre Curie was so fond of using".

It was mostly Mme Curie who worked here, for they had soon decided upon a division of work. Curie concentrated on studying the properties of radioactive bodies, his wife undertook the immense chemical work of obtaining salts and radium in a pure state.

The work demanded extreme patience and considerable physical exertion. Tons of material had to be treated to obtain as a result the fraction of a gramme of radium, so that often twenty kilogrammes of substance had to be handled at a time, great vessels had to be moved about, and in these conditions draining and sedimentation had to be carried on. The method of work was the same as that evolved during the first experiments, but the mass of material incomparably greater. Having obtained the chloride of barium which contains radium, Mme Curie increased its content of radium by repeated processes of transcrystallization. Beginning with enormous containers of kilogrammes of salts she gradually obtained ever decreasing quantities of crystals, ending at last with chemically pure chloride of radium. In order to understand the huge amount of work done we must remember that Marja Skłodowska-Curie personally carried out tens of thousands of crystallizations.

As a result of this great labour in the years 1899 to 1902 the scientist at last obtained 0.1 gr. $RaCl_2$ — one tenth part of a gramme of radium. With this it was already possible to recognise and determine the fundamental chemical properties of the hitherto unknown element.

In 1903 the title of a doctor of physical sciences of the University of Paris was conferred on Marja Skłodowska-Curie for her „Studies on Radioactive Substances". In the same year she received for the first time the Nobel Prize for physics, jointly with Pierre Curie and Henri Becquerel, for the discovery of the phenomenon of radioactivity. In the university year 1904—05 she was made Head of the University Laboratory attached to the Chair of General Physics and Radioactivity which had at that time been created for Pierre Curie. Previously, since the year 1900, she had taught physics at the High School for Women at Sèvres.

These conditions of life and work suffered a sudden, tragic change in 1906 by the death of Pierre Curie on April 19th of that year. Returning from a meeting of the Society of Professors of the *Faculté des Sciences* he was killed in the narrow rue Dauphine by a lorry coming from the Seine shore.

Marja Skłodowska-Curie took up the entire work. She refused a widow's pension and took over the chair at the University of Paris.

At this point it is worth while to reply to the question interesting wide masses of educated people, i.

e. what precisely was so extremely important in the discoveries of Mme Curie that they brought fame to a young, unknown foreigner and led her to a professorial chair.

One of the most important results of radiology is the discovery of the fact that chemical elements may be decomposed.

Historically speaking the conception of the element is a very old one. It appears as a creation of the human intellect in its natural striving after a general synthetised conception of the entirety of observed realities. Man is surrounded by a great multitude of animate and inanimate bodies and in the first place asks what they consist of, whether there is some basic primary substance of which all material bodies could be built up, or whether there are several such substances, or perhaps many. Thus was formed the idea of the element as a homogenous substance which could no further be analysed and of which various bodies could be composed — as with one kind of brick we can build various kinds of houses.

The idea of the element is to be found in the oldest civilizations — in India, Egypt, ancient Greece and Rome — but it is there more of a philosophical nature than pertaining to natural science. One, or at most several, elements were sought for and that not by experiment but by reasoning only.

The modern conception of the chemical element was introduced into science by Robert Boyle, the famous physicist and chemist of the XVIIth century. His definition was that the name of element should be given to every substance which cannot be analysed into simpler components. The idea since then ceased to be abstract and theoretical becoming coupled with the tangibly existant final product of chemical analysis. This idea of an inanalysable element implied also that it was impossible for one element to be changed into another. This definition of Boyle's was accepted by a number of the most eminent scientists of his own and of later times and became firmly established in science for many years.

At the time when Mme Curie - Skłodowska and her husband were discovering polonium and radium, the chemical elements were nicely systematized, formed into a whole, so that seemingly nothing remained for the scientists of that day beyond the possibility of discovering elements still missing and unknown. The problem of decomposing them did not exist at all, it seemed clear that the chemical elements stand at the limits of analytical chemistry and that there exist 92 kinds of matter, each different and incapable of transmutation.

The discovery of radioactivity brought about a great revolution of ideas in this domain. A number of elements were found capable of independent transmutation into others, thus upsetting the theory of an inanalysable substance as bearer of the individual characteristics of matter. In this way the border-lines between the elements were effaced and the logical consequence was the theory of the structural oneness of matter. The development of the science of radioactivity led to a recognition of the nature of the structural elements of matter. The particles observed in radioactive disintegration plainly appeared as components of the atomic nucleus. The fact of their being electrically charged pointed to electrical charges as the fundamental structural elements of matter. That is the first step towards bridging the chasm between the conceptions of matter and energy. To-day we have a right to assert that matter is an external shape of energy. This advance is undoubtedly due to the science of radioactivity and that is why it has so great an importance in the history of chemistry.

These deductions are new, but were to be foreseen already then. Hence the fame of Mme Curie-Skłodowska. In the further stages of her career she was granted the Nobel Prize again, this time alone, for her services to chemistry.

A living monument to her work is the Paris Radium Institute. Its origins date back to 1912, when the Paris University and the Pasteur Institute entered into an agreement to found jointly a Radium Institute whose activities should be carried on in two fields — physico-chemics and biology. The grounds were given by the University and the buildings were finished at the beginning of the War. Mme Curie became Director of the section for physics and chemistry. In 1915 she brought over the laboratory appliances to the new rooms almost single-handed, but she did not begin research work until 1918. During the War she used her knowledge in the service of the French army, organizing several hundred motor ambulances equipped with Roentgen apparatus. She herself made many expeditions as Head of a travelling hospital and personally examined over a thousand wounded.

The *personnel* of these motor ambulances was also schooled by Mme Curie - Skłodowska who conducted special courses for girls wishing to help in this work.

Her post-War life was rich in tokens of general appreciation and respect. In 1921 she was invited to visit America where a delegation of American women brought her the gift of a gramme of radium for the Paris Radium Institute. Eight years later, during a second visit to America, she was again presented with a gramme of radium which she in turn presented to the Warsaw Radium Institute.

In 1923, France and the whole world of science celebrated the twenty-fifth anniversary of the discovery of radium. In the great amphitheatre of the Sorbonne, with the President of the French Republic in the chair, a solemn meeting was held at which representatives of science and of the Government expressed their homage and appreciation for Mme Skłodowska-Curie, especially

stressing the activity of our great country-woman during the War, besides her scientific work.

The French Parliament was not backward in these manifestations and voted a yearly pension of 40 000 francs for life as a national gift for the scientist. It was the fourth time in the history of France that its Parliament had voted a similar gift for scientists. In 1839 such a pension had been voted for Daguerre and Niepce, the inventors of photography, in 1845 for Vicat who had discovered the method of obtaining lime by factory proceedings, in 1874 for the famous chemist and biologist Louis Pasteur.

The celebrations of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the discovery of radium called forth a strong echo in Poland and the Poles honoured their great countrywoman by the gift which she herself had designated as most to be valued by her. From voluntary contributions offered by widest masses a Radium Institute was erected in Warsaw, whose purpose and field of work are modelled on that of the Paris Institute. Mme Curie-Skłodowska was named its Honorary Head. This is not the first scientific institution in Poland which is directly connected with her person — as early as 1912 the Warsaw Science Society created a laboratory of radiology and of this also the creator of the science of radioactivity accepted the honorary directorship.

While still living Marja Skłodowska-Curie was one of the most popular figures in the contemporary world of science. Besides prizes and distinctions she also held honorary membership in nearly a hundred scientific societies all over the world and was honorary professor of a number of university schools. Her name is known far beyond the circle of specialists, it has become the pride of great masses.

All this clamour of homage and fame seemed, as it were, to remain outside her consciousness, to wake no echo in the walls of her study whose quiet continued undisturbed. Her modest and unassuming figure was far removed from any thought of striving after human appreciation. A recluse in her laboratory, immersed in the world of atomic changes, the scientist endeavoured to pass through life retired from the crowd, from its battles for money and power. Leaving the quiet of her study she only entered the common life when she recognised this action as needful during the War, and at moments of scientific or organisatorial importance. The atmosphere of her action was a deep silence, the principle of her life simplicity. Some one named her the queen of science. I think that she might also be named a queen of simplicity, for in joy and in suffering, through fame and homages, she passed through life with the simplicity that is attainable only on the highest levels of humanity's development.

Marja Skłodowska-Curie died on July 4th 1934 at Sancellemoz in the south of France. In accordance with her wish only the nearest relatives and friends followed her coffin. The world's greatest woman of science was laid to rest without official ceremonies and speeches, to the low murmur of the churchyard trees and in the incense of the flowers covering her coffin. The grave of the Curie family in the modest cemetery of Sceaux near Paris covers a mighty personality whose work and mind will endure for many years in the living work of science.

With the death of Marja Skłodowska-Curie a great light of human knowledge is gone.

Dr. Alicja Dorabialska



Ludwika Nitschowa

Marja Skłodowska - Curie

LES JEUNES PEINTRESSES POLONAISES

Ce n'est ni par l'effet d'un hasard ni grâce à une suggestion imposée que la Pologne où les costumes des paysans de certaines régions „miroitent de mille couleurs“ se soit précipitée avec une telle fougue sur les problèmes de la couleur dans la peinture. Notre peinture contemporaine s'exprime par une couleur très intense; malheureusement, les photos ne peuvent en donner aucune idée.

Nous sommes essentiellement un peuple sain. Ce sont surtout nos populations rustiques qui représentent de grandes réserves de santé. Dans nos campagnes, celle-ci éclate dans le besoin du mouvement et l'amour de la couleur. La joie, le trop-plein de la vie qui débordent dans le bond, la danse, les girations et les gambades, trouvent un équivalent dans les harmonies et les scintillations de la couleur. C'est ainsi que le Tatra, la région de Cracovie et celle de Łowicz près Varsovie émerveillent les étrangers par le caractère hautement éloquent de leur coloris et de leurs danses.

Ces possibilités „nationales“ de la peinture qui a atteint un certain niveau, aboutissent à des oeuvres dont le coloris intéressant et raffiné s'apparente à celui des oeuvres françaises.

Nos critiques mêmes nous le reprochent en quoi ils ont tort; ces rencontres sont plus naturelles que ne le supposent nos trop agressifs juges.



Teresa Roszkowska

La chasse

Notre peinture d'aujourd'hui se place donc plutôt sous les auspices de la couleur que sous celles de la forme. L'impulsion en est donnée par les Ecoles des Beaux Arts: celles de Varsovie et de Cracovie; les études complémentaires que nos peintres font à Paris agissent dans le même sens; mais la cause essentielle de ce phénomène, il faut la chercher dans des inclinations innées, dans un besoin profond longtemps réprimé et qui maintenant se fait jour avec tant d'impétuosité. Regardez un peu nos Salons des années dernières: ce qu'on y aperçoit c'est la primauté de la couleur, les préocupations de la facture et de la composition.

Les jeunes peintresses formées par l'Ecole des Beaux Arts de Varsovie sont assez nombreuses. Ce sont des personnes qui n'ont pas dépassé la trentaine, quelquefois beaucoup plus jeunes. Toutes, sincères, très dévouées à leur art, s'y acheminant souvent „per fas et nefas“. Je voudrais les présenter tour à tour aux lectrices de „la Femme Polonaise“. Aujourd'hui je me propose de parler de trois artistes de ce groupe. Leur art se rattache à un sujet, c. à d. a un contenu qu'on pourrait appeler littéraire et que chacune des artistes exprime sous une forme qui lui est particulière.

Teresa Roszkowska, pétillante comme une coupe de champagne, se laisse emporter par son humeur espiègle et malicieuse. Elle note d'un oeil vigilant le grotesque de la situation et du geste.

Sa faculté d'observer à la dérobée et de reproduire tout ce qui porte un caractère particulier est presque celle d'un acteur. Elle recherche le typique de la situation. Elle exagère, bien sûr, charge, généralise et insiste. Point d'individus, dans son art, mais des espèces biologiques. Les hommes, la nature et les animaux n'y sont que des éléments d'un tout grotesque qu'elle en compose. Pour mettre des accents, elle se sert de déformations en caricaturiste — née.

De là, ses silhouettes d'hommes, gauches et gonflées comme des ballons; de là, ses pointes comiques dans l'interprétation des animaux et de la nature. Une atmosphère de conte cocasse enveloppe ses tableaux; et même ses fragments de genre empruntés à la réalité prennent un air de conte. Roszkowska est essentiellement un talent d'illustrateur, une imagination, qui cherche à s'accrocher à une situation, une coutume, un divertissement, ou une occupation qui lui permettent



Jadwiga Przeradzka
Dans un bistro

de voir et de représenter l'homme dans le dynamisme outré du mouvement. Il est donc parfaitement explicable que l'artiste ait dernièrement commencé à travailler avec succès au théâtre où elle monte des décors pour la comédie.

Le dessin est l'élément principal de l'art de Roszkowska puisque c'est par la ligne qu'elle caractérise la qualité de la forme et du mouvement. Les couleurs lui servent à suggérer l'état d'âme, la saison, le pays et le lieu où elle loge son sujet. Sa façon de traiter la couleur évolue dans le sens d'un raffinement croissant.

Son amie et compagne d'études *Jadwiga Przeradzka* a apporté le souvenir d'un art suranné à la première série de ses travaux exposés il y a quelques années. Il y avait là des réminiscences de Rococo et du Second Empire. Ses petits tableaux „contaient" les bals et les amours de nos aïeules, sentaient les roses séchées et les vieilles dentelles. Ils dégageaient un charme, tout de souvenirs et de mélancolie. Inutile d'ajouter que l'artiste a revêtu ces sujets d'une forme picturale adéquate, en s'exprimant par des couleurs suaves, finement harmonisées.

Plus tard, elle s'est intéressée aux sujets de genre, tels qu'ils se présentent dans son pays, en province polonaise actuelle, dans les petites villes, mines inépuisables d'inspiration pour un artiste. Sa mélancolie s'évanouit, son vif regard saisit le caractère pictural de chaque situation. L'artiste poursuit ses recherches dans cette voie passant aux études des intérieurs où la lumière artificielle contribue à rendre le nuancement de la couleur encore plus raffiné et où le blanc prend des accents très forts.

Jadwiga Pietkiewiczowa est la plus secrète de ces trois artistes, et son art ouvre des échappées sur le mystère: celui des hommes et des choses. Je connais un de ses tableaux où des blocs de maisons vus d'en haut forment, au milieu d'une végétation à demi-morte, une sorte de forteresse étrangement lourde, pareille à un tombeau.

J'ai vu aussi, dans un autre tableau peint par elle, la muraille crue brun-jaunâtre d'une maison de la vieille ville dont les fenêtres et l'escalier parlaient éloquemment de la tragédie de l'existence des gens pauvres. — C'est de la littérature, direz-vous?— Oui, certes, mais il y avait là-dedans un je ne sais quoi de vrai, présenté d'une façon très individuelle.

Le tableau intitulé: „Chez le cordonnier" crée une atmosphère d'un mysticisme religieux macabre. Tout y est significatif: la toile d'araignée et le geste du plus âgé des apprentis; la figure du maître cordonnier qui fume sa pipe et la botte (rouge) suspendue à la fenêtre.

Pietkiewiczowa, qui se sert de tonalités des couleurs brun-vert-bleu-rouge, frappe par la maîtrise de sa facture, la composition de ses tableaux et par sa tendance au monumental. Les possibilités de cette artiste semblent être très vastes et dépassent les limites de la peinture de chevalet.

Pour les jeunes portraitistes et paysagistes polonaises, j'en parlerai probablement une autre fois.

Nela Samotyhowa.



Jadwiga Simon-Pietkiewiczowa
Chez le cordonnier

THE GUIDES MOVEMENT IN POLAND

In the course of the last two years the number of Girl Guides in Poland has increased from 24 000 to 50 000. The increase would have been even greater if the heads of the Movement were not of opinion that quality is more important than quantity and that selection is necessary.

There is a special training programme for Ranger Leaders. The Rangers are young girls of 18 to 20 and they act as auxiliaries in social work, pursuing their task with enthusiasm. The Guides undertake various kinds of social work. In Warsaw they have created the „Club Institute for Poorer Girls" where Guides are trained as games and drill instructors, as leaders of excursions and organizers of other activities for the amusement and benefit of shop-girls, factory-workers, office clerks a. s. o. Among the latter there are now some 6 000 Guides and another 6 500 among peasant children. Mme Olga Małkowska, foundress of the Guides Movement in Poland runs a Guides School at her home, Cisowy Dworek, and is now conducting an experimental training course for Leaders chosen from the peasant girls. There has already been a similar course at Bucze which lasted six weeks. Mme Małkowska's is planned for six months. There is a special committee at Headquarters for the purpose of helping unemployed Guides and, if possible, finding them work. Nearly every company of Guides has worked to help the unemployed and their children. Headquarters hold reports concerning some 10 000 Guides aged between 9 and 20 who regularly gave between two hours monthly and two hours daily to this work. It consisted in organizing clubs for the children, teaching them, arranging Christmas and Easter festivities, getting money by little Guides' entertainments, sewing and mending clothes for the unemployed, extending the hospitality of the Guides camps to their children in summer, helping to find work. Food, clothes, school books, medical help. etc. given by the Guides to the unemployed in the course of the last year is estimated at over 6 000 złotys. They mostly carried on this work indepedently; but partly also helped in other organizations, such as the Polish Red Cross, „Caritas", the „Women's Association for Civic Work", etc.

This summer our Guides had a new task. The terrible floods which visited Poland swept away houses and harvests, leaving near on two million people homeless and hungry. The district around Mrs. Małkowska's house was hard hit so she closed her school for children for this year, taking instead peasant children from those needy families which had suffered most from the flood. In the southern provinces which were most affected the Guides are everywhere helping in the relief work.

Pleasanter events however, can also be recorded for this last year. A very important one is the acquisition of the Guides' first sea-going yacht, the „Grażyna". Hitherto the „Sea-guides" had to get most of their training on inland waters. The special sea training for Guides is very popular in Poland and there are, of course, also the usual camps and training courses. During the year 1933 there were 333 in all, during 1934 we had 446. There are also winter sports and winter camping training courses. In the summer of 1934 a great meeting for „old Guides" from all Poland was held in the southern mountains. Its distinctive feature was that no one was allowed to arrive in camp by ordinary means i. e. by train or motor car, but only on foot, on horseback, by bicycle or—possibly — by aeroplane.

Several new undertakings are developing well. In Warsaw a school for small children has been started where all the teachers are Guides. It is named after Andrzej Małkowski, the founder of the Scouts in Poland. A shop opened by the Guides in Cracow is prospering well, and the „Tatra Nest", a sanatorjum high up in the mountains, erected and run by Guides, holds out hopes of a cure to consumptive members.

A great Guides' and Scouts' House is planned in Warsaw. All the Movement's institutions and offices should be lodged there. The plans, selected after a competition, were perfected by Guides, Polytechnic students, engineers and architects. The grounds have already been granted by the Government and lie in the neighbourhood of the Central Institute for Physical Training. Mme Mościcka. wife of the President of the Republic, is the lady patroness of the Committee and the Guides of Poland hope to have a home of their own very soon.

Z. de C.



AUS DEM PFAD-

Flügge geworden verlässt die Pfadfinderjugend die Schule, nicht, um die Bande, die sie mit ihrem Horst verbanden zu lösen oder gar zu zerreissen. Im Gegenteil, diese Bande erstarken, werden deutlicher, ein Ansporn, das Leben draussen den Pfadfinderidealen anzupassen, diese Ideale aufs Land, aufs Meer, in die Lüfte zu tragen.

Das Haus der grössten Gemeinschaft.

Eigentum der ganzen Pfadfindergemeinschaft ist ihr Haus „Bucze".

Bucze ist Familienhaus und Schule zugleich. Zu den Kursen kommen künftige Trägerinnen der Pfadfinderlehre, um in ihren Pflichten unterrichtet zu werden und Mut und Initiative für ihre weitere Tätigkeit zu schöpfen. Im gastlichen Haus von Bucze tagen Kongresse, werden Konferenzen abgehalten und Kinder der Umgebung in verschiedenen Zweigen der Haus- und Landwirtschaft unterrichtet, sie lernen nähen, stricken, es bietet sich ihnen Gelegenheit, nicht nur die Verdienstmöglichkeiten zu erweitern, sondern auch das eigene kulturelle Niveau zu heben, das der Nachbarn zu beeinflussen. Von auswärts kommen unterernährte schwache Kinder von Arbeitslosen, um hier durch Aufenthalt in Luft. Licht und Sonne Gesundheit zu schöpfen. Das alles leistet eine Mannschaft von 15 Personen. Wie ist das möglich? Ganz einfach: Jeder nach Bucze kommende Gast ist zugleich Familienmitglied und hat seine Rechte, aber auch seine Pflichten. Wo keine Dienerschaft ist, tut jeder Dienst. Die Hörerinnen der Kurse leiten die Kinderschule, flössen, den Kindern, der Umgebung Pfadfinderideale ein; in den Werkstätten werden die älteren ausgelernten Mitglieder aus der Nachbarschaft beschäftigt.

So arbeiten auf jedem Gebiet des weitverzweigten,, manningfache Interessen bergenden Pfadfinderhauses „Bucze" die opferfreudigen, tüchtigen Hausfrauen willig und harmonisch.

Die Seglerinnen
Das Mittagessen wird vorbereitet
Ein interessantes Buch wird gemeinsam mit dem Hirtenknaben gelesen
Weisse Tollheit

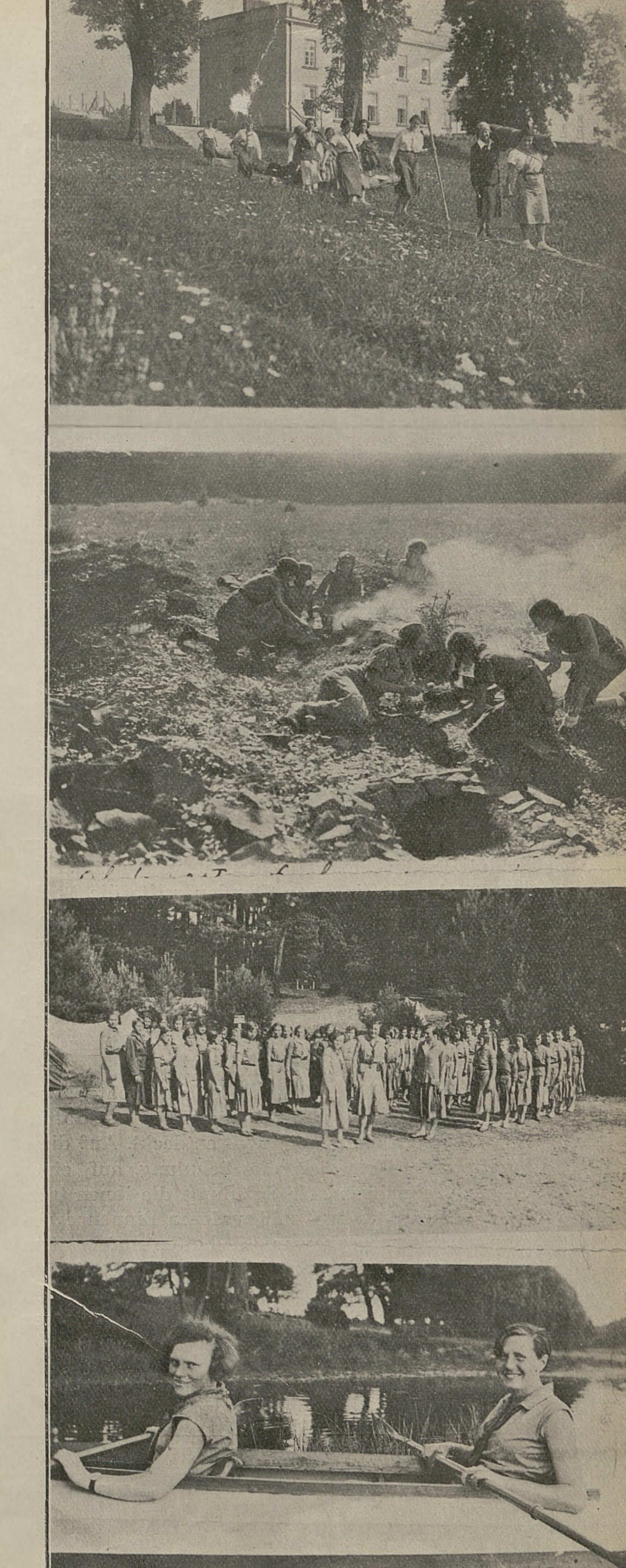
-FINDERHORST

Im Tatra-Horst.

Bucze ist das Haus der Gesunden. Hoch oben in der Tatra hausen die Kranken. Klein hat man angefangen. Gerührt durch das Elend kleiner Nestlinge, die die Geissel der Menschheit, die Schwindsucht bedrohte hat Frau Dr. Jadwiga Zienkiewiczówna, Arzt und Pfadfinderin zugleich, drei junge Mädchen in einem Haüschen in Łomnica, nahe von Zakopane, untergebracht und sich um ihre Gesundheit bemüht. Die Behandlung gab gute Resultate und da gedachte Frau Doktor aller anderen lahmen Vögelchen in den Reihen der Pfadfinderinnen. Sie suchte Hilfe, klopfte an allen Türen. Nicht umsonst. Es kamen allerhand Gaben; Geld, Kleider, Spielsachen, Wäsche. Das Haus der Kranken wuchs, Kein Krankenhaus. Ein lustiges Heim, wo die Kranken trotz Sorge um ihre Gesundbeit ihre Pflichten und Übungen nicht vernachlässigen. Sie haben auch ihre Werkstätten, sie erzeugen und verkaufen Kelims, Spitzen. Holzschnitzereien etc. Die Insassen wissen, was Dankbarkeit und soziale Pflicht ist. Sie haben heuer ein krankes, unternährtes Bergbauernmädel als „Kind des Heimes" adoptiert. Ein neues und glückliches Mitglied der Familie wo alle von der Frau Doktor angefangen bis zur lustigen kleinen Köchin einander lieben, und fürs gemeinsame Wohl arbeiten. Die Köchin dichtet in ihren freien Stunden — nicht ausgesuchte Leckerbissen — Theaterstücke, von denen eins schon von ihren Mitbewohnerinnen aufgefürht wurde. In dieser gesunden Atmosphäre, unter dem Einfluss des herrschenden reinen gesunden Geistes haben schon viele der Kranken den Weg auch zur leiblichen Gesundung betreten.

Weisse Tollheit.

Schüttelt Frau Holle ihr Federbett, hüllt sie das Land ins weiche, weisse Schneegewand, vergisst die Pfadfinderin jeden anderen Lieblingssport



Das Haus von „Bucze"
Die Pfadfinnerinnen „bauen" ihre Küche
Die Pfadfinderinnen stellen sich zum Morgenappell
Auf dem Kanoe in die weite Welt!

und wird vom Ski-Teufel besessen. Eine wahre Völkerwanderung beginnt. Überall in den Bergen beleben sich die Schutzhäuser. Kurse für Anfänger werden veranstaltet, Ausflüge, Raids unternommen. Die einen ziehen die bequemen Wege, die eleganten Winterkurorte, Hotels, Dancing etc, vor die anderen suchen Kontakt mit der Natur auf nie betretenen, verwehten Pässen und in abgelegenen Winkeln. Die der Leidenschaft des Skisports verfallenen Pfadfinderinnen möchten ihr eigenes weisses, wie ein Zauberschloss entlegenes Paradies haben. Und da es nichts unmögliches für entschlossene Pfadfinder gibt, so hat man in aller Geschwindigkeit einen „Verein der Freunde des Schutzhausbaues" gegründet, und schon wächst auf dem Berge Kostrzyca, in einer wilden, wenig bekannten Gegend, das Märchenschutzhaus. Das zweite Stockwerk nähert sich seiner Vollendung. Bald sind wir unterm Dach. Bald werden die weissen tollen Schneevögel hoch oben, im schwer zugänlichen Horst im Eigenheim hausen.

Seglerinnen.

Sie haben ihre eigene Geschichte. Paar Jahre sind es her, da schaukelte in der Bucht von Jastarnia eine Yacht, die den Namen „Junak" (Jungrecke) trug. Still und verlassen lag die Bucht, still und verlassen das Schiff. Die Mannschaft mit dem Schiffskapitän General Zaruski, weilte noch in der Kirche. In ein paar Stunden sollte die Yacht zu einer Schulfahrt in die See stechen. Vom Dorfe her näherten sich schnell, doch verstohlen drei Gestalten, betraten das Verdeck, öffneten die Luke zur Segelkammer. Zwei der Gestalten schlüpften hinein, die dritte zog die Falltür zu und verschwand am Land. Bald kamen die Hörer des Schulkurses aufs Schiff, man richtete das Steuer und fuhr aufs Meer hinaus. Erst viel später wurden die blinden Passagiere — zwei Frauen, Gattinnen zweier der Mannschaft — entdeckt. Auf diese Weise wollten sie sich die Schulung auf einer Seeyacht erzwingen, die Schulung, die ihnen trotz Tüchtigkeit auf Fluss- und anderen Binnengewässern versagt worden war. Sie hatten auf legalem wege die Leiter der verschiedenen Kurse zu rühren versucht, sie hatten sogar mit Einschleichen auf ein Schulschiff gedroht. Umsonst! Damals war die Antwort General Zaruski's: „In einem solchen Falle würde ich dem Beispiel eines griechischen Kapitäns folgen und sie ins Meer werfen".

Jetzt war der General den „Verbrecherinnen" gegenüber weniger streng. „Auf dem Lande wird abgerechnt", entschied er. „Und nun wilkommen, meine lieben Gäste".

Die paar Tage der Seefahrt genügten, um den Kommandanten und die Besatzung zu überzeugen, dass die Frauen an Bord ihren Mann stellten. Sie schrien nicht, sie fürchteten sich nicht, sie taten nützlichen Besatzungsdienst.

Das war der Anfang. Dank der Fursprache des Generals war der weitere Weg zur Schulung der Frauen im Seedienst geebnet. Zuerst inofiziell; später wurden schon eigene Frauenkurse eingeführt, der erste unter der Leitung einer der zwei Teilnehmerinnen des abenteurlichen Einschleichens, Frau Dr. Jadwiga Wolff. Pfadfinderinnen haben seither bei diesen Kursen erste Plätze erworben. Wir haben schon eine Frau Schiffskapitän, einige weibliche Steuermänner — die Bewegung wächst, erstarkt, die Pfadfinderinnen besitzen schon eine eigene Yacht, und nächstes Jahr segeln sie in die weite Welt. Man nimmt sich vor, eine zweite Yacht zu erwerben. Der Schwierigkeiten eingedenk, die sich ihnen beim Erringen der Seetüchtigkeit in den Weg stellten, wollen die Pfadfinderinnen, dass auch weitere Kreise der Freude an Seefahrten teilhaftig werden, und haben heuer auf ihrem Schiff „Grażyna" auch Frauen, die nicht Pfadfinderinnen sind geschult.

In den Lüften.

Hoch in der Luft segelt der Pfadfinder. Dorthin ist ihm bis jetzt seine Kollegin aus der Pfadfinderfamilie nicht gefolgt. Doch sie will auch auf diesem Gebiet nicht zurückbleiben. Aus Lwów und Lodz, auch aus anderen Städten wurde gemeldet, dass Frauen den Fliegerzirkeln beitreten. Da griff das Warschauer Haupquartier ein und veranstaltete einen systematischen Kurs zur Schulung von Pfadfinderfliegerinnen. So wird bald die Luft erobert und das Ziel, die Pfadfinderideale dem Leben anzupassen, aufs Land, aufs Meer, in die Lüfte zu tragen, erreicht.

Marja Kannówna.

44 RUE KOSZYKOWA, VARSOVIE Rédactrice en Chef et Editeur: **Mme Emilie Grocholska**

Zakł. Graf. „Drukarnia Bankowa", Warszawa, Moniuszki 11.